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FOR RELEASE: 5 August 1971

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FROM: Kika de la Carza

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- Congress will be in recess during August, but I will not be. Speaker Carl Albert has appointed me a member of a bipartisan Congressional delegation to the third United States-Korea Interparliamentary Conference in Seoul, Korea. This conference is an informal vehicle for an exchange of views between U. S. and Korean legislators. Our delegation is expected to meet with President Park, recently re-elected, as well as members of the Assembly. Speaker Albert will address the Assembly while we are in Seoul.

This conference was inaugurated in March 1969. I was also a member of the delegation on that occasion, being appointed by then-Speaker John McCormack. A group of Korean Assemblymen returned our visit in the summer of 1969.

One other Texan will be a member of this year's delegation -- Chairman Bob Poage of the House Agriculture Committee, on which I serve. The delegation has a total of 24 members.

We leave for Seoul on August 6. Incidentally, this weekly report will continue while I am out of the country.

* * *

MERCHANT MARINE LEGISLATION -- As I have said before, much of the important work of Congress is done in the committees. This fact has been borne in on me with renewed force this year, when I am serving for the first time on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries in addition to my work on the Agriculture Committee.

So far, two Committee bills have been finally passed and signed by the President, nine other bills have been reported by the Committee and passed by the House, another is at present pending before the House, two others have been ordered reported to the House, and four subcommittees have held hearings on 10 additional bills.

The subjects of these measures range from small boat safety to ocean dumping, from coastal zone management to transportation of cargo by barges. Some of them are of direct importance to our own South Texas area, where the fishing industry makes important contributions to the economy. I am most fortunate that both my committees handle legislation which can have considerable impact on the well-being of the people of the 15th Congressional District.

* * *

UNDERSEA TECHNOLOGY -- When he appeared recently before our Subcommittee on Technology, Dr. Richard E. Hallgren of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (which comes under the Department of Commerce) announced plans for a program in undersea technology. This program will support coordinated scientific

studies leading to improved management of fishery resources, offshore mining, waste disposal, and the impact of man on the ocean and its resources.

Major contracts already have been let for development of improved oceanographic and meteorological sensors, and for a high capability ocean platform system to support testing of buoy system components. These will be deployed in the Gulf of Mexico next year. Arrangements have been completed for the communications, ship services and shore support required for the test operations.

Of special interest to South Texans, Dr. Hallgren also explained the need for extensive observations to determine the variability of the ocean, to test techniques for modification of hurricanes and convective clouds, and to develop ways of predicting and controlling pollution.

A significant meteorological and oceanographic experiment is being planned in the tropical Atlantic during the summer of 1974. It has been recognized for some time that the tropical oceans have a major influence on the general circulation of the atmosphere. Our understanding of the process is at present inadequate to model and predict atmospheric and ocean conditions, including hurricanes and other storms. These disastrous phenomena, with which our area is all too familiar, form in the tropical Atlantic. Eight nations plan to participate in the 1974 experiment.

* * *

INTERN PROGRAM -- Thirty youths from the Southwest, including four from the 15th District, are working this summer in Washington in a special intern program funded by the U. S. Department of Labor. This eight-week pilot program was developed by the Labor Department for in-school enrollees of the Neighborhood Youth Corps and co-sponsored by the League of United Latin American Citizens. The main objectives of the project are to inspire minority high school students to continue their education by stimulating their interest and making them aware of job opportunities available in the federal government to qualified applicants.

The young men visited the Capitol attending a hearing. I co-chaired for the House Agriculture Committee on the VEE epidemic. While en route to the hearing they saw the President at the Capitol when he was attending some ceremonies here that afternoon.

* * *

The four young men from our area are Mike Garcia of Mission, Paul Garcia of Raymondville, Antonio C. Juarez of Brownsville, and Leo Serna of Mercedes. Good luck to them!

* * *

VISITORS -- Visiting my office this week were Mr. J. L. Garrison of McAllen and his daughter-in-law Mrs. W. L. Garrison of Springfield, Virginia; Mr. Gene Sullivan and Mr. Leo E. Jordan, both of McAllen; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fryer and Becky, Beverly, Bunny and Jay Fryer of Mission; Sgt. Jose J. Martinez of Port Isabel presently with the military in Washington; and the NYC young men, Antonio C. Juarez, Mike Garcia, Raul Garcia and Leo Serna.

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